of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether two applications for import of capital goods for manufacturing camera roll films have been received from M/s. India Cine agencies ;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ; and

(c) whether Government propose to impose a suitable export obligation in such cases before considering the applications ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Both the applications are under consideration. The question of imposing an export obligation will be considered by the appropriate Capital Goods Committee for imports.

Writing off of bad debts by nationalised banks

*217. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any data with them as to the bad debts which have been written off by each of the nationalised banks during each of the last three years, if so, how much of it was loaned in loan-melas;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines to strengthen their credit appraisal machinery and to exercise close supervision and control over the advances in order to minimise the write offs;

(c) whether after issuance of these guidelines there has been any downward trend in the writing offs; if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether Government propose to review the position ;

(e) whether Government have stopped the loan-melas, as were held in the past, if so, what are the reasons therefore; and

(f) what is the total amount given in loan-melas and how much of it had to be written off or is due to be written off ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (f) In accordance with the statutes governing the public sector banks as also in terms of the practices and usages customary amongst the banks, the bankers do not disclose the quantum of such bad and doubtful debts for which provision has been made to the satisfaction of their statutory auditors as also the amount of bad debts written off.

Reserve Bank of India have issued no separate guidelines to the banks for organising loan melas or credit camps. The banks can organise credit camps as part of overall measures taken by them to increase the flow of credit to weaker sections. The data reporting system does not yield separate information in respect of number of credit camps, amount disbursed and amount written off etc. However, as at the end of March, 90 the public sector banks had outstanding advances of Rs. 9896.85 crores involving about 252.20 lakhs borrowal accounts in favour of weaker sections of the society.

Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have been impressing upon the banks the need to strengthen their machinery for credit appraisal and for exercising effective supervision and control over the advances made. The banks have also been advised to evolve a strict time discipline so that irregular and sick accounts are discovered early

and effective measures are taken to reduce the incidents of bad debts. Reserve Bank of India has also advised the banks to institute a system of classification of their advances into distinct categories according to the health of advances at a given point of time for the purpose of their effective monitoring and follow up. A scrutiny of advances is also carried out by Reserve Bank of India at the time of inspection of the banks and the advances which reveal sticky tendencies are brought to the notice of the banks for remedial measures.

Water requirements of Andhra Pradesh

*218. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey/study has been conducted by the Central Government to determine the water requirements of Andhra Pradesh and to explore the water resources in the State ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA) : (a) and (b) The National Water Development Agency has been conducting surveys and investigations for water balance studies of the Peninsular Region. The studies, *inter-aila*, includes the 12 basins/sub-basins having catchment areas in Andhra Pradesh. Studies on 6 basins/sub-basins have been completed. Water requirements of the State as a whole is approximately assessed as around 7 million hectare metres.

Progress made by Blast Furnaces of SAIL

*219. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether blast furnaces of Steel Authority of India Limited at Bhilai and Bokaro have made progress in regard to productivity and coke rate ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government propose to take similar steps for other units of SAIL ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are as follows :—

	1985-86	1989-90
Bhilai Steel Plant:		
Coke Rate (Kg/tonne of hot metal).	723	692
BF Productivity (tonnes/cubic metre of useful volume per day)	0.94	1.02
Bokaro Steel Plant		
Coke Rate (Kg/tonne of hot metal).	728	664
BF Productivity (tonnes/cubic metre of useful volume per day).	0.83	0.95

(c) pnd (d) Upgradation of technology to improve techno-economic indices of BF Production is a